CELEBRATING AN EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF A

PHENOMENAL WOMAN

Mother Novelean Harris

Arrival
Thursday, June 15, 1916

Departure
Wednesday, January 11, 2012

Celebration Services

Friday, January 20, 2012, 10:00 AM

Hilltop Community Church
3118 Shane Drive
Richmond, California 94806

Officiating: Pastor Raymond Landry, Independent Community Church, Richmond, California
Eulogy, Dr. Gregory B. Payton, Greater St John Baptist Church, Oakland, California

OBITUARY

Mother Novelean Harris was born the second child to Charlie & Lillie Turner on Thursday, June 15, 1916, in Bernice, Louisiana. At the age of 5, the family moved to El Dorado, Arkansas. She graduated from Washington High School. She accepted Christ at an early age under the leadership of the late Rev. F. H. Kelly, Pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church in El Dorado, Arkansas. Novelean met and married the love of her life, George H. Harris and to this union two sons were born. Later a daughter joined their family. After moving to Monroe, Louisiana, Novelean developed a strong desire to pursue a career in Cosmetology.

Her husband George wanted a better life for his family; on July 4, 1943 he moved his family to California, settling in Richmond. The family joined North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Rev. F. W. Watkins. They were very active members in their church.

Having a desire to become a business woman, Novelean enrolled at Charm Beauty College, in Oakland, California. Upon completion she obtained her license from the State of California to practice Cosmetology. She opened the first black Beauty Salon in North Richmond and later established Novelean's Beauty Salon at 1037 7th Street. Due to Richmond Development, the salon then moved to its present location at 401 Harbour Way South. She was a mentor to several cosmetologists, whom also ventured out and opened their own salons.

Mother Harris was a strong pillar of the community. She was always a dedicated and dependable leader in her church and served in many capacities at North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of the late C.W. Newsome. Her activities included, 1st Vice President of the Women Missionary Union; The Bochum Five Singers; organizer of the clothes and food giveaway program and Soup Kitchen supervisor. Mother Harris was well- known for her delicious food. She was passionate about feeding people for the body and ministering to their souls. Every Wednesday, the Soup Kitchen served hot meals and gave away bags of groceries. She also taught many volunteers culinary skills. At 12 noon each day, Mother Harris would stop and have prayer. She not only talked the talk but she lived her life as a true Christian woman, by showering everyone she met with love.

Mother Harris worked with the St. John District at the National and State level, holding the position as Secretary-Treasurer for many years. She was an active participant with most of the political candidates at the local, state and national levels. She was known for giving advice, fund raising and feeding the candidates. The City of Richmond declared May 1, 2008 Mother Novelean Harris Day. A special bench with her name engraved was dedicated and placed in front of the North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church in her honor.

At the age of 90 she vowed to have a birthday celebration each year, over 200 people would be in attendance. She organized each event with the help of her loyal friends and family. At her 95th birthday party she stated "This will be my last." On Wednesday, January 11th, the Lord whispered in her ear, "Well done my good and faithful servant come and go with me to a land where you'll never grow tired."

Mother Harris was preceded in death by her father and mother, Charlie and Lillie Turner, a sister, Chestine Osborne, her husband, George H. Harris, and her eldest son, Charlie G. Harris.

She leaves to carry on her legacy, her youngest son, Rev. James Harris, daughter, Carolyn Smith- James (Bob), 6grandchildren, Charlotte Allen (Dennis), Cynthia Cotton (Orlando), Robert D. Smith, James R. Harris Jr. (Wanda), Catheryn Richardson (Clayton), Jama Harris (Diji) and 8 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild, and a host of nieces, nephews, god -children, cousins, extended family and friends.

Order of Service

Prelude.....*Willis Hickerson*

Processional.....

Scripture ....*(Old Testament: Isiah 54:17)* .....*Rev. Dr. O. Breckenridge*
(New Testament: Phil 4:13).....*Pastor, Fleetwood Irving, Second Baptist Church, Vallejo, CA*

Prayer.....*Rev. Jesse Mason, Macedonia Baptist Church*

Solo.....*Pastor A. L. Cobb Jr, Providence Baptist Church*

Resolutions & Acknowledgments.....*Patricia Hamilton Bolds*

Solo..... *"Great is Thy Faithfulness"*.....*April Wright-Hickerson*

Expressions .....*Mayor Gayle McLaughlin*
Bob Campbell
Athena Frost (on behalf of Alice Newsome)
Dr. Betty Wright
Donald Hampton
Hattie Heathman
Rev. Wiilie O. Hamilton, North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor Tyrone E. Barnette, Peace Baptist Church, Decatur, GA
Bishop J.W. Macklin, 2nd Presiding Bishop of COGIC International
Pastor Samuel Smith, Emmanuel Baptist Church in Stockton, CA

Solo.....*Pastor Lloyd Farr, Bethel Tabernacle*

Obituary (Read Silently).....*Musical Medley, Rev. Jonathan McGriff*

Special Reflections..... *St. John District Association*
Mary Walton, President Women Auxiliary
Edna Fisher, 3rd Vice President Women Auxiliary/Assistant Dean
Pastor Ray Williams, Moderator

Selection... *"Walk Around Heaven All Day"*.....*Pastor Fleetwood Irving & Dr. Gregory B. Payton*

Selection..... *Echoes of Zion Choir, Greater St. John Missionary Baptist Church*

Proclamation of Hope .....*Dr. Gregory B. Payton, Pastor*
Greater St. John Baptist Church, Oakland, California

Viewing & Recessional.....*Rose Manor Funeral Home In Charge*

Musical Medley.....*Willis Hickerson*

Burial.....*Rolling Hills Memorial Park, 4100 Hilltop Drive, Richmond, California 94803*

The Lord was her Shepherd she had no reason to want
He made her lie down in pastures that were pretty and green.
He led her along waters that were quiet to restore her soul.
He guided her in paths that were righteous for his sake
Even though she walked through the valley of death
she had no fear for God was so near.
His rod and His staff were comforting
He prepared a table for her in the presence of those enemies
and anointed her head with oil and filled her cup until it overflowed.
There is nothing but goodness and love following her and
she will dwell with her Lord forever and ever.

Acknowledgments From the Family

Sincere gratitude and thanks to the Oakland Kaiser Hospital Hospice Department.

Your compassion, kind words, cards, flowers,
food, tokens of love and prayers will always
be remembered. To all our extended family and friends
your support has touched us in a way that
we could never express our gratitude and love to each of you.

Honorary Pallbearers

Henry Beavers
Bobby Morgan
Joe Smiley
Edwin Bynum

Earl Morgan
Thomas Pruitt
Clarence Williams
Lavoisier Harper

Cordell Benton

Pallbearers

Paul Walker
J. R. Evans
Terry Mitchell

Luther Evans
Robert Mitchell
George R. Mitchell II

A special thank you to Olivia Walker, Clara Cooper, and Carlin Colbert for their tireless efforts and compassion in caring for our mother and grandmother.

**Repast following Internment at*
Albany Veterans Hall
1325 Bortland Ave.
Albany, CA 94706

Finally, Together Forever